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PATENT

Atty. Docket No. EXT-010CN

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

APPLICANT: Shuber
SERIAL NO.: 09/870,729 GROUP NO.: 1637
FILED: May 30, 2001 EXAMINER: J. Tung
TITLE: Methods for Detecting Contamination in Molecular
Diagnostics Using PCR

SEP 12 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2901

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action for the above-identified patent application, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 9, 2002. A petition for a one-month extension of time up to and including September 9, 2002, and the appropriate fee are submitted concurrently herewith. Applicant believes that no additional fees are due, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be occasioned by this filing to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

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AMENDMENT

In the specification:

On page 2, please replace the first paragraph (lines 1-14) with the following (a marked-up copy is attached herewith):

However, the mere lack of amplification product within the PCR
negative control is not determinative of a positive PCR result in a sample

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